NewsRelease

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
SPEAKER SHARES OPTIMISTIC VISION FOR AERONAUTICS

Our expectation of the future usually reflects past successes and failures. According to Richard Wlezien, however, there are new and exciting "game-changers" in aeronautics and good reason to be optimistic at NASA.

Wlezien, Vehicle Systems Program Manager, NASA Headquarters, will speak on "Reasons to be Optimistic About Aeronautics" at a colloquium at 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 18.

Media Briefing: A media briefing will be held at 1:15 p.m. at the Pearl Young Theater, 5 North Dryden Street, NASA Langley Research Center. Media who wish to attend should contact Kimberly W. Land at (757) 864-9885 or (757) 344-8611 (mobile) to arrange for credentials and escort on Center.

With a review of potential benefits in aeronautics, Wlezien will explain how aeronautical research protects our environment, increases mobility, and provides new aerospace exploration opportunities and partnerships with national and international government agencies.

A Chicago native, Wlezien earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in 1974, 1976 and 1981, respectively. His concentration was in fundamental studies of turbulence.

From 1980 to 1990, Wlezien worked for McDonnell Douglas Research Laboratories, where he was responsible for noise research, working acoustic issues for aircraft. Between 1990 and 1992, he was an associate professor at IIT, before moving to High Technology Corp., where he worked as a senior scientist in aeronautics research.

In 1994, Wlezien joined NASA Langley and held a series of technical and management positions, from project scientist to branch head. He formed the Active Flow Control Group and was the first to manage the Aircraft Morphing Project.

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